

THE EEC EXPRESS!

APRIL 2014

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Mayor Jay Tibshraeny & the Chandler City Council

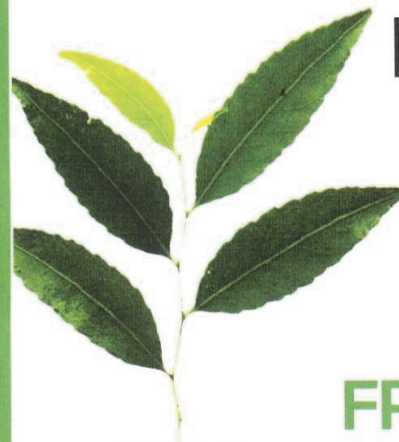
MAYOR JAY TIBSHRAENY AND THE CHANDLER CITY COUNCIL PRESENTS

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION, 6-YEAR EEC ANNIVERSARY & ARBOR DAY COMMEMORATION!

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

from 4-7 p.m.

Veterans Oasis Park
4050 E. Chandler Heights Rd.
(on the northeast corner of Chandler Heights
and Lindsay roads)



FREE ADMISSION *and*
Great for all ages!

Fun and educational activities! Discover
nature, science, and the great outdoors!

Experience hands-on activities, live animal
presentations, and discover ways to live a
more eco-friendly lifestyle from on-site vendors
and exhibitors. This year's event will feature food/
beverage vendors, merchants, prize giveaways, and
special outdoor activities!

Outdoor portion may be cancelled due to inclement
weather. Call the Environmental Education Center
(EEC) Program Hotline at 480-782-2889 for updates.



For more information call 480-782-2890 or visit
www.chandleraz.gov/veterans-oasis.



—CHECK OUT—

Chic-A-Dee Burrowing Owl Walks 4/12

Earth Day Celebration 4/25

Dark Sky Week Star Party 4/26

And three new classes!!!!!!!



ALL AGES PROGRAMS

*For “Meet the Creature” programs, fee is per person. Children ages 2-12 must be accompanied by a paid adult. This policy is in place to eliminate overcrowding in the classroom and provide a safe and enjoyable environment for the animals and our guests.

BEDTIME STORIES WITH NOCTURNAL ANIMALS*
Come enjoy a bedtime story that teaches you about animals at night and have the opportunity to meet a nocturnal animal in person.
Instructor: Lisa Limbert of Lisa’s Creatures & East Valley Wildlife
Resident fee: \$6 **Non-resident fee: \$9**
908EE.364 F 4/4 4-4:45 p.m. 2 yrs+

MEET THE CREATURE!*
In this interactive program, children will get up close and personal with live animals while receiving a fun lesson in wildlife rescue and conservation. Each program features different fascinating animals from around the world.
Instructor: Lisa Limbert of Lisa’s Creatures & East Valley Wildlife
Resident fee: \$6 **Non-resident fee: \$9**
903EE.374 Sa 4/12 11-11:45 a.m. 2 yrs+
904EE.374 Sa 4/26 11-11:45 a.m. 2 yrs+

PRESCHOOL CLASSES

BUG ZOO!
Explore a real, live collection of bugs with a certified entomologist! Learn about beneficial bugs, such as butterflies, ladybugs and bees. Discover interesting insects and other creepy-crawlies! Each child will receive a free activity book. Fee is per child; parents admitted free.
Instructor: Dr. Bug of ProBest Pest Control
Resident fee: \$3 **Non-resident fee: \$5**
006EE.364 F 4/4 10-10:45 a.m. 3-6 yrs

GOOFY GARDEN FUN!
Learn gardening basics through crafts, games, experiments, songs, and more! Each month features a different concept of learning with a nature theme. Activities may include vegetable painting, planting an edible plant and more! Fee is per child, with one unpaid adult permitted.
Instructor: Lalitha Krishnan Supply fee: \$5
Resident fee: \$7 **Non-resident fee: \$10**
002EE.374 Sa 4/26 10-11:15 a.m. 3-5 yrs

HOME SWEET HOME
Ever wonder how animals live in the desert? Explore different desert habitats found in Veterans Oasis Park and discover the animals that live there through stories, songs, walks and crafts. Participants will observe animals in their natural environments and learn about how animals live. Fee is per child, parents are invited to attend. (Pond Habitats)
Instructor: Martha Strizzi
Resident fee: \$5 Non-resident fee: \$7
020EE.344 W 4/23 11 a.m.-noon 3-6 yrs

NATURE STORY TIME
Music and stories are an important part of shaping a child’s life. Through interactive stories, music, games, and drama, we build positive attitudes, character, self-esteem and values.
Instructor: Ann Burkhart
Resident fee: \$6 **Non-resident fee: \$9**
010EE.364 F 4/11 9-9:45 a.m. 3-5 yrs

SCOUT BADGES

JUNIOR/CADETTE BADGE: GETTING TO KNOW THE DESERT
We will be covering desert basics, formation, wildlife, plant life, and basic survival techniques. The class will be inside and outside so bring water and dress appropriately.
Instructor: Chris Booth Supply fee: \$2
Resident fee: \$14 **Non-resident fee: \$20**
601EE.374 Sa 4/26 10a.m-2p 8-12 yrs

YOUTH CLASSES

ANIMAL DETECTIVES
Have you ever wondered what coyote poop or roadrunner tracks look like? Find out in this animal forensics lab where we will explore the world of desert animals within Veterans Oasis Park. We'll learn what clues their scat and tracks reveal and why they are important to study. Participants will make their own animal tracks and scat using molds and clay. We will put our skills to the test tracking animals in the park.
Instructor: Daniella Rodriguez
Resident fee: \$7 Non-resident fee: \$10
116EE.374 Sa 4/19 12:45-2:15 p.m. 6-12 yrs

BUGOLOGY!
There are believed to be between six and ten million species of bugs. What would the world be like without them? Explore the world of insects and arachnids. Discover just how important insects are and learn about their traits with live examples of insects and arachnids from around the state, country, and world.
Instructor: Ruben Rivera
Resident fee: \$3 **Non-resident fee: \$5**
111EE.374 Sa 4/12 1-2 p.m. 7 yrs+
112EE.344 W 4/16 4:30-5:30 p.m. 7 yrs+

FISHING LESSONS
Lear to fish at beautiful Veterans Oasis Park! Students will learn the basics of fishing, such as baiting and casting a line. Fishing licenses are required for all participants ages 10 and up. All supplies, including rods and bait, are provided.
Instructor: DeWane Tabbot Supply Fee: \$5
Resident fee: \$12 **Non-resident fee: \$17**
102EE.374 Sa 4/5 8:30-11:30 a.m. 7 yrs+

TEEN CLASSES

ACRYLIC PAINTING-BEGINNER
Enjoy the beautiful views while learning to paint at Veterans Oasis Park! Topics will cover all the basic elements needed to handle and create a painting with acrylic paint. Contact the EEC for a supply list (students bring their own supplies). No experience necessary; all levels welcome!
Instructor: Tony Meli
Resident fee: \$13 **Non-resident fee: \$18**
308EE.334 Tu 4/29 6-8 p.m. 16 yrs+

MT. BIKE CLUB
Come out to Veterans Oasis Park and join the first Chandler teen mountain bike club. Bring your own bike and helmet and be ready to ride the trails of the 113-acre park every week! Bring a friend!
Instructor: EEC Staff
Resident fee: \$9 **Non-resident fee: \$13**
201EE.334 Tu 4/8-4/22 5-6 p.m. 11-15 yrs

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Outdoor Adventures is the place for everything outdoors! Come out and learn camping, fishing and wilderness survival techniques every week. We will practice what we learn every time.
Instructor: EEC Staff
Resident fee: \$9 **Non-resident fee: \$13**
204EE.344 F 4/4-4/25 3:30-4:30 p.m. 11-15 yrs
Registration Deadline 4/1

OUTDOOR PIZZA PARTY—”DUTCH OVEN STYLE”
Come out to Veterans Oasis Park for an outdoor pizza party! We will learn how to cook our own pizzas in Dutch ovens, and then enjoy our creations while watching a movie. Bring a friend!
Instructor: EEC Staff
Resident fee: \$12 **Non-resident fee: \$16**
202EE.354 Th 4/24 4-6 p.m. 11-15 yrs

STARRY NIGHTS
Take a journey through the universe! Each month explore asteroid fields, planets, galaxies or nebulae through hands on activities, telescope viewings and presentations. (Galaxies)
Instructor: Ryan Young Supply fee: \$5
Resident fee: \$5 **Non-resident fee: \$7**
207EE.344 W 4/16 6:30-7:30 p.m. 11-15 yrs

ADULT CLASSES

CLIMATE CHANGE
Is there evidence that the climate is warming? How does climate change affect our weather patterns? What changes have been observed in the southwest U.S. and what is expected in the future? Learn the science behind the conversation and understand the human impacts of climate change. Using information from the latest intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and curriculum from the University of British Columbia, this 75 minute seminar and slide show tells the story our climate, giving a broad overview of the science and the observations that our climate is changing.
Instructor: Blaine Hannafin
Human Health Impacts and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Resident fee: \$3 **Non-resident fee: \$5**
315EE.374 Sa 4/5 11 a.m.-noon 18 yrs+
Atmospheric Interactions and Human Impacts
Resident fee: \$3 **Non-resident fee: \$5**
316EE.334 Tu 4/8 11 a.m.-noon 18 yrs+
317EE.374 Sa 4/19 11 a.m.-noon 18 yrs+
Infectious Disease and Air Quality
Resident fee: \$3 **Non-resident fee: \$5**
318EE.334 Tu 4/22 11 a.m.-noon 18 yrs+

INTERMEDIATE BIRDING
Become more confident about bird identification! This three-part series will focus on bird behaviors and you will discover how to identify some of the more challenging species of birds found in Arizona.
Instructor: Cindy Marple
Resident fee: \$12 **Non-resident fee: \$17**
313EE.344 W 4/2-4/16 6:45-7:45 p.m. 16 yrs+

FITNESS PROGRAMS

FAMILY YOGA
This class is designed for parents and children to experience the benefits of yoga while enjoying time together. It blends fun and fitness with music, games, and basic yoga postures. Fee is per child, with 1 unpaid adult permitted. Bring a mat or beach towel.
Instructor: Jackie Pinho Instructor Fee: \$24
Resident fee: \$7 **Non-resident fee: \$10**
015EE.324 M 3/31-4/21 10:15-11 a.m. 2-10 yrs
016EE.324 M 4/28-5/19 10:15-11 a.m. 2-10 yrs

YOGA FLOW
Discover the benefits of yoga in this slow flow class that emphasizes basic postures. Students will practice strength, flexibility, and balance in each class and will end with a deep relaxation. Everyone is welcome, and class is suitable for all levels. Bring a mat or beach towel.
Instructor: Jackie Pinho Instructor fee: \$24
Resident fee: \$7 **Non-resident fee: \$10**
329EE.334 Tu 4/8-4/29 6:30-7:30 p.m. 12 yrs+
326EE.374 Sa 4/12-5/3 9-10 a.m. 12 yrs+
324EE.324 M 4/28-5/19 9-10a.m. 12 yrs+

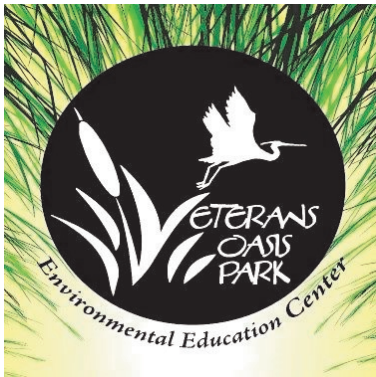
PILATES AT THE EEC
Relax your mind and body in this fun class suitable for all fitness levels. Build a stronger core, improve posture, and increase strength and flexibility. Learn exercises that you can perform anywhere without any special equipment or machines. Bring a mat or beach towel.
Instructor: Debra Crockett Instructor fee: \$32
Resident fee: \$9 **Non-resident fee: \$13**
302EE.344 M/W 4/2-4/21 6:30-7:30 p.m. 16 yrs+

FREE SIGNATURE EVENTS

EARTH DAY AND EEC 6TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Mark your calendar! Celebrate Earth Day at the EEC & Veterans Oasis Park on Friday, April 25, 4-7 p.m. Experience hands-on activities, live animal presentations, and discover ways to live a more eco-friendly lifestyle from onsite vendors and exhibitors. This year’s event will feature food/beverage vendors, merchants, prize giveaways, and special outdoor activities. Outdoor program may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Call the EEC Program Hotline at 480-782-2889 for updates. Check www.chandleraz.gov/veterans-oasis for event details. Location: EEC and VOP
Fri 4/25 4-7 p.m. All ages
SONORAN SUNSET SERIES
Sonoran Sunset Series features free, live, lakeside entertainment suitable for the entire family! Participants may bring blankets, chairs, or food and should dress warmly on cool evenings. In case of inclement weather, the performance will be held inside the EEC. Call the EEC Program Hotline at 480-782-2889 for updates. Location: EEC Lakeside Amphitheater
Performer: *Dry River Yacht Club*
Th 4/17 6-7 p.m. All ages

FREE FAMILY RECREATION

*Registration for the following programs is NOT required, but large groups of 10 or more must call the EEC in advance: 480-782-2890. All participants under age 14 must be accompanied by an adult. Donations are suggested for all free programs.
CHIC-A-DEE
Join the EEC for a guided nature walk to see some of the resident burrowing owls and then join us indoors for a spring craft to make your own burrowing owl! Guided walks by the Desert Rivers Audubon Society will be every 30 minutes starting at 9:30 a.m.
Sa 4/12 9a.m.-noon
DARK SKY WEEK STAR PARTY
How many stars can you see in your backyard? National Dark Sky Week is April 28-May 2 this year. Join the East Valley Astronomy Club and the EEC for star gazing Saturday, April 26 from 8:30-10 p.m. Then turn off your lights early and enjoy the beauty of the night sky at the EEC for the whole week. Learn about light pollution and how you can reduce the effect on our night sky. A display will be up all week showing just how much we can’t see when we leave the lights on. Location: VOP East Parking Lot
Sa 4/26 8:30-10 p.m.
FRIDAY FEEDING FRENZY!
Have you ever wondered what the live animals at the EEC eat for dinner? Have you ever seen a snake stalk its prey? Join the EEC staff on the first and third Friday of each month for a live animal feeding. Meet the animals in our nature center and learn about their diets. Stick around and watch the animals be fed.
F 4/4, 4/18 3:30-4 p.m.
FOSSIL FOOLS DAY
Learn about the effects of fossil fuels on our environment and alternative energy resources through activities and displays during Fossil Fools Day!
Tu 4/1 5-7 p.m.
MONTHLY FAMILY BIRDWALK
Desert Rivers Audubon leads free guided bird watching tours through Veterans Oasis Park on the first Saturday of every month from November - April. One-hour walks begin every 30 minutes starting at 8 a.m. Be prepared for the outdoors! Bring binoculars, water, and wear good walking shoes and a hat. Meet at the Red-tailed Hawk Pavilion.
Instructor: Desert Rivers Audubon volunteers
Sa 4/5 8 a.m. - noon All ages
MONTHLY FAMILY NATURE WALKS
The wildlife habitats at Veterans Oasis Park are a haven for a variety of urban wildlife. Join an experienced naturalist for a guided walk that explores the plants and animals of the park’s desert and wetland habitats. Bring binoculars, water and wear good walking shoes and a hat. The walks are not fast-paced and the terrain is easy. Donations are accepted and guide books will be available for sale. Meet at the Red-tailed Hawk Pavilion.
Instructor: Laurie Nessel of Maricopa Audubon Society
Su 4/20 8-9:30 a.m. All ages



EEC Hours:
Mon. - Thur.
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Closed Sundays & City
Holidays**

Daily Park Hours:
6 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

APRIL 2014
Program Schedule
Environmental Education Center
at Veterans Oasis Park
4050 East Chandler Heights Road, 480-782-2890
www.chandleraz.gov/veterans-oasis

All programs require pre-registration and fees, unless otherwise noted. All programs are subject to change or cancellation. Class descriptions are listed in *Break Time* magazine.

Register in-person at City of Chandler Recreation facilities or online at www.chandleraz.gov/registration.
Call 480-782-2890 for more information.

Sunday EEC CLOSED	Monday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Tuesday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Wednesday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Thursday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Saturday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
		1 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m. Fossil Fools Day FREE! 5-7 p.m.	2 Pilates 6:30-7:30 p.m. Intermediate Birding 6:45-7:45 p.m.	3 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m.	4 Bug Zoo! 10-10:45 a.m. Feeding Frenzy! 3:30-4 p.m. Outdoor Adventures 3:30-4:30 p.m. Bedtime Stories with Nocturnal Animals 4-4:45 p.m.	5 Family Bird Walks FREE! 8 a.m. - noon Fishing Lessons 8:30-11:30 a.m. Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. Climate Change 11 a.m.-noon
6	7 Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. Family Yoga 10:15-11 a.m. Pilates 6:30-7:30 p.m.	8 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m. Climate Change 11 a.m.-noon MT. Bike Club 5-6 p.m. Yoga Flow 6:30-7:30 p.m.	9 Pilates 6:30-7:30 p.m. Intermediate Birding 6:45-7:45 p.m.	10 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m.	11 Nature Story Time 9-9:45 a.m. Outdoor Adventures 3:30-4:30p.m.	12 Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. CHICK-A-DEE 9a.m.-noon Meet the Creature! 11-11:45 a.m. Bugology 1-2 p.m.
13	14 Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. Family Yoga 10:15-11 a.m. Pilates 6:30-7:30 p.m.	15 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m. MT. Bike Club 5-6p.m. Yoga Flow 6:30-7:30 p.m.	16 Bugology 4:30-5:30 p.m. Pilates 6:30-7:30 p.m. Starry Nights 6:30-7:30 p.m. Intermediate Birding 6:45-7:45 p.m.	17 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m. Sonoran Sunset Series: Dry River Yacht Club 6-7 p.m.	18 Feeding Frenzy! 3:30-4 p.m. Outdoor Adventures 3:30-4:30 p.m.	19 Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. Climate Change 11 a.m.-noon Animal Detectives 12:45-2:15 p.m.
20 Family Nature Walks FREE! 8-9:30 a.m.	21 Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. Family Yoga 10:15-11 a.m. Pilates 6:30-7:30 p.m.	22 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m. Climate Change 11 a.m.-noon MT. Bike Club 5-6 p.m. Yoga Flow 6:30-7:30 p.m.	23 Home Sweet Home 11 a.m.-noon	24 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m. Outdoor Pizza Party 4-6 p.m.	25 Outdoor Adventures 3:30-4:30 p.m. EEC Anniversary and Earth Day Celebration 4-7 p.m.	26 Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. Goofy Garden Fun 10-11:15 a.m. Junior /Cadette Badge: Getting to Know the Desert 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meet the Creature! 11-11:45 a.m. Star Party! 8:30-10 p.m.
27	28 Yoga Flow 9-10 a.m. Family Yoga 10:15-11 a.m.	29 Nature Classroom for Kids 9-10 a.m. Acrylic Painting-Beginner 6-8 p.m. Yoga Flow 6:30-7:30 p.m.	30			